

REMARKS

In the Advisory Action of July 28, 2008 the Examiner held that the proposed amendments of June 5, 2008 failed to place the application in condition for allowance, and also held that the changes to Claims 11 and 18 raised new issues that would require further consideration and/or search, and therefore would not be entered. While the applicant strongly feels that these two holdings, particularly the second holding refusing the entry of the proposed amendments, (e.g. since main independent Claim 1 was not at all amended), nevertheless in order to avoid a Petition, as well as an Appeal, applicant has decided to conform the application exactly to what the Examiner indicated would be allowable in order to facilitate issuance of the patent, but without prejudice of applicant's right to file a continuation application with respect to the additional subject matter which applicant strongly feels also to be allowable.

Accordingly, the present amendment does exactly that, namely conforms the application to what the Examiner indicated would be allowable in the Final Action of April 7, 2008.

Thus, Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 5, which the Examiner had indicated would be allowable; Claim 6 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 7, thereby in effect rewriting Claim 7 in independent form, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable; Claim 8 has been amended so as to be in independent form and to include the subject matter of Claim 9, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable; Claim 11 has been cancelled merely to avoid the requirement for correcting the drawing; Claim 17 has been amended so as to be in independent form, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable; Claim 18 depends

on allowable amended Claim 8; Claims 19–32, some of which were previously indicated as allowable, all depend from allowable Claim 18; Claim 33 has been amended to include the subject matter of Claim 35, which the Examiner indicated would be allowable; Claims 36–48, some of which were previously indicated as allowable, now depend from allowable Claim 33 or Claim 44; Claims 49 and 50 depend from allowable amended Claim 8; and the remaining Claims 51–63, many of which were previously indicated as containing allowable subject matter, now also depend from an allowable claim.

In addition, new dependent Claims 64–69 have been added, corresponding to dependent Claims 3 and 10, but made to depend from allowable independent Claims 6, 8 and 17, respectively.

It should be noted that six (6) previous claims (2, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 35) have been canceled, thereby not increasing the total number of claims pending in the application.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is believed that the amended claims now conform to exactly what the Examiner indicated would be allowable. Accordingly, the foregoing amendments cannot be said to require further consideration and/or search, and therefore should be entered for purposes of placing the application in condition for allowance in accordance with the Final Action of April 7, 2008.

As indicated above, these amendments are being made merely to conform the claims to what the Examiner indicated would be allowable in order to facilitate the issuance of the patent, and without prejudice of applicant's right to file a continuation application with respect to the subject matter, which applicant feels is also allowable, and not covered the amended claims in the present application.

Since this application is under Final, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin D. Moynihan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Martin" being more prominent.

Martin D. Moynihan
Registration No. 40,338

Date: September 25, 2008